

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for purchasing a product comprising the steps of:

identifying a plurality of suppliers;

creating an information template for each of the plurality of suppliers wherein each of the information template specifies

~~specifying~~ a product having at least one ~~and each~~ component disposed within the product;

searching each of the information templates for the specified at least one ~~components~~ component disposed within ~~each~~ the product;

identifying at least one supplier from the plurality of suppliers by use of said search;

causing a design file of said product to be created by performing the steps of

transmitting at least one computerized design file associated with the at least one ~~each~~ component disposed within said product created from each of said identified suppliers from the plurality of suppliers to a purchaser, and

selectively using said at least one transmitted computerized design file associated with the at least one component disposed within said product to create a three dimensional prototype of said product; and

purchasing said at least one component disposed within the product ~~product~~ from said at least one identified supplier from the plurality of suppliers.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

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placing certain information on said information template of said identified supplier related to the cost of producing said product; and

reporting said certain information.

Claim 3 (previously amended): The method of Claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

storing said three dimensional prototype of said product within an associated information template database; and

evaluating said design file before purchasing said product.

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

creating information relating to the operation of said product; and

placing said information upon said template of said identified supplier.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said product is selectively assembled within a vehicle.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein said templates are searched over a global computer network.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 6 wherein said global computer network comprises the internet.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (previously amended): A method for purchasing a product comprising the steps of:

fixing attributes of said product having several interconnected components;

decomposing said product into several interconnected components;

identifying a plurality of suppliers;

creating an information template having a dynamically configurable and searchable field wherein the dynamically configurable and searchable field is configured to specify ~~which specifies~~ a plurality of interrelationship attributes related to ~~an~~ the interrelationship of the several interconnected components of said product associated with ~~for~~ each of said plurality of suppliers and wherein the interrelationship attributes of said components further define the overall function of each of the several interconnected components, ~~each of said information templates further containing information identifying the respective products and components provided by the supplier, a cost of producing each of said respectively provided products and components, and the time required to provide each of said respective products and components;~~ and

searching said information templates in order to identify suppliers of said product and said several interconnected components.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim 13 further comprising the step of:

identifying at least one supplier of said product by use of said information templates.

Claim 15 (previously amended): The method of Claim 14 further comprising the step of:

identifying at least one supplier from a plurality of suppliers for each of said several interconnected components by use of said information templates.

Claim 16 (previously added): The method of Claim 13, wherein the step of creating the information template further comprises the step of:

specifying a plurality of attributes related to the interrelationship of the product to other products.

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Claim 17: The method of Claim 1, wherein the product having the at least one component disposed within the product is used in an automotive vehicle.

Claim 18 (newly added): The method of claim 1, wherein the product has a plurality of interconnected components disposed therewithin.